

Connections

A Publication for Employees of the Missouri Department of Transportation

June 13, 2013

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New Chief Engineer Sets Priorities for MoDOT's Future

by Holly Dentner

It may be his second week as chief engineer, but Ed Hassinger has 29 years of MoDOT experience to help guide him as he settles into the new position. He took some time this week to answer a few questions about his view of MoDOT's future. You can also learn more about Ed and his priorities by keeping up with his blog - [Ed's Blog](#).



Chief Engineer Ed Hassinger brings 29 years of MoDOT experience to the position.

Q. How has your experience prepared you for this position?

Hassinger: I started working at MoDOT in 1984 as a structural designer in the bridge division. Over the years I've held a variety of engineering positions at Central Office and also served as district engineer in the Northeast District. I spent the last 12 years as district engineer in St. Louis. I believe the diversity of that experience and the challenges of managing an urban district like St. Louis have prepared me to lead the engineering and multimodal functions of this department.

Every time I have made a career decision at MoDOT, I based it on two things. Could I make a difference, and would it be fun? I can tell you every time I have said yes to both. Everywhere I have been I am so impressed with our folks. The dedication, the can-do attitude always comes through. Whether it was the flood of '93 or the blizzards this year, our folks step forward to any challenge.

The significance of what we do here hit me many years ago when I was a young engineer in bridge maintenance. I was working with a repair crew after a big wreck east of Columbia. Traffic was backed up for miles, waiting for us to make something happen. That's why this job matters.

Q. What are your top priorities as chief engineer?

Hassinger: I plan to work closely with the director and the commission to help position MoDOT for the future. Regardless of our funding status, we must continue our long-range planning and focus on what we can accomplish with what we have. We have to maintain Missouri's roads and bridges in good condition. We have to keep ourselves and our customers safe. We have to provide outstanding customer service. We have to be prepared to double our program. Along with the rest of our tangible results, these are the key areas that will guide us toward success.

Q. The transportation funding bill did not make it through the Legislature this year. Do we still need to plan for delivering a program twice as big?

Hassinger: Despite the fact the funding initiative didn't make it on the ballot this legislative session, we aren't throwing in the towel. I know the construction, design, and planning employees are concerned their efforts to prepare for a bigger program have been for nothing, but that's not the case. We might be on hold right now, but that door hasn't closed completely for us, and their work is still very important and should continue.

Q. What other priorities are important to you?

Hassinger: At the St. Louis District, we moved forward as a group with the development and emphasis on teamwork. It's essential for the entire department, and one I'd like to see more of as we move forward. Your maintenance crew, your project office, your division, your district – you work as a team to succeed. That should be the same for the entire department. We support one another, we work together, we excel together.

Q. What is the most important thing you would share with a new employee?

Hassinger: The number one thing all employees must remember is SAFETY. I can't stress that enough. Many of you are exposed to potentially dangerous situations every day, and you do a great job. But we must work hard to make sure that everyone goes home safe every day.

When we talk about safety, we talk a lot about numbers and statistics, but every one of those numbers is a person. I still vividly remember the circumstances of every MoDOT fatality that occurred when I was a district engineer. They weren't numbers. They were Bill, Larry, Jeff, Ken. I know their families, and they still feel like they are part of the MoDOT family. I see them every year at

remembrance events. This is why safety is personal. I really don't want to know any more families for this reason.

Q. Anything else you'd like to share with employees?

Hassinger: Like our director, I believe innovation will help us deliver results to our customers. I challenge all of you to follow Dave's lead to be bold and take every opportunity to leverage new technology and find new approaches to meet the transportation needs for our state.

I'll do my best to get out in the field, visit to the districts, and pop in on division offices to get to know you, see what you are working on, and answer your questions. I also want to thank you for your dedication and commitment to the department. We've been through some difficult times, but we must stay focused on the future and achieving our goals.

Team Talk

by Roberta Broeker

Hello Team MoDOT! This is the first column in *Connections* for Team Talk. Every two weeks, it's my hope to address employee issues that can make us a stronger team. The issues will come from concerns submitted to the Employee Advisory Council, visiting with human resources staff about questions you send their way and simply listening to what department employees say are on their minds.



Click above to hear Chief Financial Officer Roberta Broeker discuss accountability.

The first topic I want to tackle is one we've been living for the past two years ... the Bolder Five-Year Direction. A few weeks ago I was on a district visit, and an employee asked me if we met the objectives of the Bolder Five-Year Direction. Something I learned along the road is that lots of times there is a question behind the question.

I think most folks know the objectives we wrote down have mostly been met. We reduced staff by 1,200. We closed about 130 buildings. We sold more than 600 pieces of equipment. In terms of money, we've saved \$358 million, which is more than the target for this point in time. So what was this employee really asking me? I think he wanted to know if I'd own up to the impact the past two years has had on the PEOPLE of MoDOT. So yes, we've met a lot of the objectives already, and I'm not worried about meeting the rest, but that came at a cost to every single MoDOT employee.

What I need you to know is the hard part of the Bolder Five-Year Direction is behind us. I hoped I would be talking to you about voters considering increased funding for transportation, but the proposal didn't

pass in the Legislature. We're disappointed. However we've already streamlined MoDOT based on our existing funding.

Contrary to the rumor mill, there is not a Bolder, Bolder Five-Year Direction in the works. There is no plan to further reduce staff. In fact, we're working hard to get our staffing numbers back up to 5,106. We're also working on processes that will help a smaller MoDOT meet our customer's expectations. We owe that to every Missouri taxpayer.

And who knows, that transportation funding increase may still be just around the corner.

PS – I recently sat down with Senior Construction Inspector Tamara Pitts to discuss accountability at MoDOT. Here's a link to the video - [Accountability](#).

SAFETY BEGINS WITH ME AWARDS

by Jeff Padgett

During the past year many improvements have been made to the way we think about safety, and we're still making improvements. One of the most recent is the new safety rewards program, Safety Begins with Me Awards.

This new program begins July 1 and takes the place of Safety Jackpot, the safety incentive program used during the last fiscal year. We listened to employee's feedback and realized what Safety Jackpot offered wasn't what employees wanted. So, our Safety and Healthy Managers, together with employee focus groups and the EAC developed a new program that we are confident will give employees what they like.

One of the biggest changes is that all employees, both safety-sensitive and non-safety-sensitive are now eligible for awards, as well as safety-sensitive work units. Director Dave Nichols summed it up perfectly in his email to employees last week when he said, "We say 'safety is everyone's responsibility,' and now our safety recognition program will have awards for every eligible MoDOT employee and work unit."

You can see what the program offers and the criteria for eligibility in the program overview located on the intranet. You'll also find FAQs, which include your options for handling any



Safety Jackpot cards you may still have, and list of safety-sensitive work units. We're currently working on a more detailed eligibility requirements list, which will be added soon - [Rewards](#).

We've asked supervisors to begin sharing this information with you, so you'll be hearing more about it during your morning safety discussions and staff meetings.

Thank you for all you do to work safely every day.

New Email System Getting Closer

by Amie Peters

By now you've probably seen email about MoDOT's switch from Lotus Notes to Microsoft Outlook. It's a big change since most employees have an email account. The switch will be completed in phases and more detail on when your area will transition will be available next week.

Here are the basic things you need to know:

What Programs are Included in Outlook 2010?

- Email/Calendars
- Lync (Microsoft version of Sametime chat)
- Harmon.ie
- SourceOne (email archive system)

What Happens When I Get Outlook?

- The software will be installed on your computer behind the scenes. As this happens, you will see a new icon on your desktop called Microsoft Outlook. Please do not use the icon until you have been notified to do so.
- All your email will be moved to Outlook. No email will be lost or deleted. But, not all email will be moved to your in-box and folders as it is now.
 - Older email will be archived on a web-based search engine called SourceOne. The archive is fully accessible and searchable. You will be provided a link so you can retrieve your email at any time once the software is installed.
- Calendar entries, folders and address book contacts will also be moved to Outlook.
- Email on your mobile device will be moved the same night as your computer.
- You will not have access to email the evening that the new software is installed.
- Once the software is installed, you will use Outlook to send and receive email, work with calendar entries, etc. The Lotus Notes icon will remain on your desktop, but can only be used to view email and calendars in Lotus Notes.
- When you get closer to the date for your software installation, you will receive email notices from the 'IS EMAIL TEAM' with special instructions. Follow the instructions to make sure you have a smooth switch from Lotus Notes to Outlook.

What about Training?

- Many employees are familiar with Outlook from using it on their home computers. For those of you who want to get a head start, there are online training materials at the link below. More information, including FAQs, will be added soon.
- Information Systems employees will be available in the districts and divisions to assist employees with the switch.
- As always, the IS Service Desk is available to help you by calling 573.751.5000 Monday thru Friday 6:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Information, including training materials can be found on the [IS Help](#) site. Watch for more details, including weekly email updates, coming soon.



Kansas City District Joins Kick Off for Governor's 100 Missouri Mile Challenge

by Michele Compton

Last week, Kansas City District team members joined local Missourians and Governor Jay Nixon in Kansas City to kick off the [Governor's 100 Missouri Miles Challenge](#).

The Governor personally issued a challenge to all Missourians -- "walk, hike, bike, paddle or ride at least 100 miles on Missouri's roads, trails, or rivers by the end of the year."

The challenge was inspired when Missouri was named the "Best Trails State" by [American Trails](#), a national, nonprofit organization. Missouri State Parks offers almost 1,000 miles of managed trails and the state claims more than 500 miles of National Recreation Trails according to the U.S. Department of Interior.

Missouri State Parks, Missouri Bicycle and Pedestrian Federation, the Department of Health and Senior Services and MoDOT, as well as several other organizations and businesses, are sponsors and supporters for this initiative.

More than 2,500 Missourians have signed up for the challenge already, including team members from the Kansas City District. You can too! Learn more online at <http://www.100missourimiles.com/>

Also, see photos from the event on MoDOT Kansas City's [Flickr feed](#).



Assistant District Engineer Chris Redline, District Planning Manager Lee Ann Kell, Transportation Project Manager Randy Johnson and Sr. Customer Relations Specialists Steve Porter and Michele Compton represented MoDOT to support the Governor's 100 Missouri Miles Challenge kick-off in Kansas City.

Fast Facts



Did you know that Missouri features more than 606 miles of shared-use paths for bicyclists and pedestrians? Shared-use paths are used by pedestrians, cyclists and in some cases even horses, and usually at least 10 feet wide. The Katy Trail is an example of a shared-use path.

Have you checked out MoDOT's bicycle and pedestrian webpages? There's a ton of information, including state bicycle maps, links to other webpages dedicated to cyclists and pedestrians, links to the major Missouri bicycle trails, traffic maps and much more. Take a look - [Bike/Ped Program](#).

Remember When...



Definitely lacking personal protection equipment.



Obviously there were no safety handbooks back then.

What's Happening

MHTC Welcomes Two New Members

Earlier this month, the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission welcomed Gregg C. Smith of Clinton and Kelley M. Martin of Kansas City as recent appointees by Governor Jay Nixon as commissioners.

"We congratulate and welcome our two newest members, Gregg Smith and Kelley Martin, and look forward to the experience they will bring to the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission as we seek to chart the future of Missouri's transportation system," Commission Chairman Joe Carmichael said.

Smith and Martin will replace, respectively, Grace Nichols of St. Charles and Rudy Farber of Neosho, whose terms expired in March. The six-year terms of the new appointees will last through March 1, 2019.

"As we welcome our newest commissioners, at the same time we express our appreciation for the service of Grace Nichols and Rudy Farber. Each has served as chairperson of the Commission, and provided exemplary leadership during times of tremendous achievement and also during periods of funding challenges and the tough decisions they required," Carmichael said.



Longest Tenured Chief Engineer Dies

Robert M. Hunter, who served longer than any other chief engineer in the 100-year history of MoDOT, died last week in Jefferson City. He was 92.

Hunter was chief engineer from 1970 until his retirement in 1985. In total, he spent 35 years with the department and his career largely spanned the time during which Missouri's Interstate System was designed and constructed. Beginning in 1950, after his graduation from the University of Missouri-Columbia, he worked as a highway designer, and later became the District 4 engineer in Kansas City. He returned to Jefferson City as engineer of Surveys and Plans; then became assistant chief engineer for seven years prior to ascending to the chief engineer position.

He was one of four MoDOT chief engineers who served as president of the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.



Funds for Innovative Safety Project

MoDOT's Central District received a federal grant to try an innovative pavement treatment that will help keep motorists safer on Missouri highways. See Central District's page for details - [Central](#).



Win a MoDOT Centennial T-shirt!

Congratulations to James Whitsitt, maintenance crew leader in the KC District and Bryan Hartnagel, structural resource manager in Bridge, for earning MoDOT Centennial T-shirts by knowing that Woodrow Wilson was President of the United States when the state highway department was established.

Enter online here: [Quiz](#) or fax your answer, name and phone number to (573) 526-4859 by Fri., June 21 for a shot at the next t-shirt give away (*link works for active employees only*).

We'll head back to 1913 for this issue's question: The Missouri State Highway Department came about just in time for Henry Ford's innovative assembly-line approach, which made automobile ownership affordable for more Americans. In 1913, Ford's assembly line turned out _____.

- Model As
 - Edsels
- F-150s
 - Model Ts



May EAC Minutes Available

Minutes from May's Employee Advisory Council meeting have been posted on the EAC website at [EACMinutes](#).

If you have any questions or comments, please contact the EAC at eac@modot.mo.gov.

June Service Anniversaries

35 Years

- Rick K. Ellison - NE
- Danny J. Wheeler - NE
- Johnnie J. Parks - NE
- Wess Griff Murray - KC
- Dale Anthony Baumhoer - CD

30 Years

- Rod A. Moore - NW
- Norma K. Wood - NW
- John P. Morris - NE
- David Mark Powell - NE
- Lisa Renee Mueller - CO
- Mary Sue Fontana - CO

20 Years Continued

- Jim Beebe - KC
- Jeffrey S. Davis - CD
- Jon W. Schneider - CD
- Todd M. Siebeneck - CD
- Richard Raymond Schneider - SL
- George F. Bueker - SL
- Steven Douglas Hoernig - SE
- Gloria J. Bunch - SE
- Daniel M. Smith - CO
- Rick Dean Fredrick - CO
- Sandra Kay Hagenhoff - CO
- Cristifer D. Kallenbach - CO

15 Years

10 Years Continued

- Todd A. Myers - NE
- Michael Jay Keith - KC
- Stephen P. Spire - KC
- Jennifer J. Jones - CD
- Jason M. Sommerer - CD
- Richard L. Stone - CD
- Michelle A. Voegelé - SL
- James R. Wright - SL
- Scott E. Claycomb - SW
- Aaron D. Jaeger - SW
- Timothy Shawn Woolstenhulme - SW
- Charles R. Polodna - SW
- Richard Lee Persinger - SW
- Anita M. Clark - SE

25 Years
Roy D. Hogsett - NE
Lee Ann Kell - KC
Keith M. Jacobsen - CD
Randy Darin Lamons - CD
Owen W. Hasson - SL
Teri D. Feller - SL
James F. Blackburn - SW
Jimmy Dewayne McDiarmid - SW
Deborah K. Carter - SE
Matthew C. Seiler - SE
Tina Marie Graziano - CO

20 Years
Danny Joe Rosenbohm - NW
Scott Gray - NW
Donna J. Skeen - NE
Stephen M. Holloway - KC

Joe W. Howles - NW
Jerry Don Adkison - NW
James Paul Becerra - NW
Travis W. Pennington - NW
Darryl Wayne Frerking - KC
Timothy L. Koch - KC
Jeffrey Halbert - SL
Robert James Willett - SL
Mark E. Croarkin - SL
Craig A. Switzer - SW
Sharon R. Needham - SW
Michael S. Crannick - SE

10 Years
Kristy Marie Ann Plummer - NW
Michael L. Bond - NW
Joe Alan Leader - NW

Jennifer Lynn Harper - CO
Kristi Hixson - CO

5 Years
Amber Michelle Dydel - NW
Kevin Bryan Peck - NE
Mark Ryan Green - KC
Michael S. Warren - KC
Kyle W. Warren - KC
David Wayne Shouse - KC
Nabor Louis Madrigal - KC
Bradley T. Echols - CD
Dale L. Hutto - CD
Orvelle W. Hughes - SL
Robert L. Frazier - SL
Christopher D. Green - SL

In Memorium

Dayton Dent, Jr.
former D6 – May 23
Samuel Renfro
former D2 – May 25
Doyle Jones
former D8 – May 25

John Millirons
former D7 – June 1
Robert Hunter
CO – June 3

William Barton
CO – June 4
James Garner
former D10 – June 8

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Customer Relations - MoDOT
P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102
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Editor: Tammy Wallace

Comments & Suggestions

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Local School Partnership Delivers Exciting Day of Learning

by Jim Dickson



Mike Michael, Historic Preservation (far right) discusses archaeology with the students.



Carrie Wolken, Traffic & Highway Safety (far left) talks to the group about the Quick Click challenge.



Mark Sidebottom, Bridge, (top left) walks through the West Point Bridge Designer program with his students.

Ask any school teacher, and you'll hear the same thing: the closer it gets to the end of the school year, the harder it is to keep students focused. If there were only some type of hands-on activities that would tap the students' excess energies and at the same time challenge their minds.

The answer for a group of Jefferson City eighth grade teachers was the annual Patriots and Partners Day, held on May 15 at Thomas Jefferson Middle School. MoDOT teamed with the Missouri State Highway Patrol and Federal Highway Administration, as well as the schools' other Partners in Education, HyVee and Modine Manufacturing, to deliver an exciting day of hands-on activities for students and a welcome respite for the teachers.

MoDOT is one of Thomas Jefferson's Partners in Education through the Jefferson City Chamber of Commerce. Every winter, the TJMS orchestra comes to Central Office for a holiday performance, and every spring we have a big presence at the school's Patriots and Partners Day.

"Our objective is to get students interested in math and science careers, and more specifically, transportation," said Darla Gjesvold, who coordinates the program through the Equal Opportunity and Diversity Division. "We also use this as an opportunity to teach the students about transportation-related safety issues, such as buckling up, drinking and driving, and texting and driving."

While teachers got a break from their regular class schedules, students were busy building bridges in the bridge competition and learning more about an archeologist's role in transportation.

In addition, the students also participated in activities such as the Seat Belt Convincer, Quick-Click Challenge, and watched the MSHP/AT&T Last Text video, as well as a few team building activities. The fatal vision goggles gave students a compelling look at the dangers of impaired driving.

Reaching out to these students was an enriching experience for both the Patriots and their partners. Sound like something you'd like to be a part of? Contact Darla Gjesvold at darla.gjesvold@modot.mo.gov or (573) 522-9482.

What's Happening at Central Office



Jim Dickson, customer relations, hits the streets in Jefferson City surveying citizens for On The Move.

Central Office On The Move

Central Office employees have been hitting the streets this spring participating in the On The Move mobile tours, to survey Missourians about the state's transportation system.

The mobile tours are still in full swing with four weeks remaining until the July 7 completion date.

Feedback from the thousands of surveys taken over the last few weeks is being compiled as one component in developing a long range transportation plan.

State Employee Recognition Week

Central Office employees got with the program and participated in several state employee recognition activities last week. Flashback Friday was one of the more popular events.



Even though they were in the middle of moving offices, Beth Wright and Tim Jackson, from CO maintenance (left), shared some MoDOT memorabilia on Flashback Friday.

Financial Services employees Kelly Mauzy, Jackie Kampeter, and Todd Grosvenor (top) show off their MoDOT fashions on Flashback Friday.



Bring Your Child to Work Day

The Central Office and Central District will participate in Bring Your Child to Work Day on Thu., June 27.

The fun starts with registration beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the Central District building, followed by a day of scheduled events.

- [Event and Schedule Details](#)
- [Printed Registration Form](#)
- [Online Registration](#)

Diversity Workshop

The University of Missouri Columbia's LGBTQ Resource Center



(Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Questioning) will be leading a workshop focusing on breaking down stereotypes, definitions and terminology, coming out issues, and current events, issues and climate.

Tues., June 18
9:30 - 11:30 a.m.
830 MoDOT Drive, Purple Conference Room

You can register for the event through [LMS](#) and search either: LGBTQ Safe Space Workshop or course number 24287. Be sure to change the category type from on-line courses to all courses.

For questions contact:
Ida Mitchell, Equal Opportunity and Diversity Division
573-751-2675



Opportunities to Give the Gift of Life

The state employee blood drive is ongoing with a few more opportunities to give.

Make an appointment by visiting www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: MOSState

Thus., June 14 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. St. Joseph Cathedral Undercroft
Tues., June 18 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Truman Bldg, Room 490/492
Tues., June 18 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Highway Patrol HQ - Gym

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Passion For Highway Safety Runs In The Family

Sometimes passions run deep, like those for highway safety in the Gach family. Former Missouri Highways and Transportation Commissioner David Gach not only served for several years on the commission working to make Missouri roads as safe as possible, but now his grandchildren are following in his footsteps.

“The idea behind the contest is for these kids to help get their relatives in the business to buckle up,” Gach said. “Sometimes the emotions the kids can draw from really work better at convincing the adults to wear their seat belt.” Gach runs a trucking business in St. Joseph, Mo., and understands the need for safety both on the personal and business level.

Brady Pugh, seven year-old son of Susan and Joseph Pugh and grandson of Gach, recently was recognized for his artistic talent in the national 2013 Commercial Motor Vehicle Kids’ Safety Belt Art Contest. Brady received a certificate for his efforts in creating a poster to encourage drivers to buckle up. The theme for this year’s campaign was “Be Ready. Be Buckled.”

This is the second year Brady has been recognized for putting his love of drawing to work in this safety area. Brady and his nine-year old brother Benjamin were both honored in last year’s contest and traveled to Washington, DC for a ceremony with their family. Brady and Benjamin live in St. Joseph with their parents and little brother Bauer, and are students at Mid-Buchanan R-5 Elementary.

“We are proud of our budding artists and hope they continue to do what they love while striving to make a difference,” said the Pughs.

The annual Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Belt Partnership art contest is open to children in grades K-6 (ages 5-12) with a relative or sponsor in the truck and bus industries. The winners of the contest recently were honored at an awards ceremony held at the U.S. Department of Transportation Headquarters in Washington, DC. A special program was held for the winners at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum on the National Mall in mid-May. While invited to this year’s festivities, the Pugh family was unable to attend.

The CMV Safety Belt Partnership is a collaboration between the U.S. Department of Transportation’s Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration and 29 other government agencies and organizations to encourage CMV drivers to wear safety belts every trip, every time.



Brady Pugh, grandson of former Missouri Highways and Transportation Commissioner David Gach, poses with his nationally recognized artwork.

Inspection Closes Linn County Bridge

On June 6, 2013, a routine inspection of the bridge over Locust Creek on Route B, just west of Linneus, Mo., prompted the closure of the bridge. Inspectors and district staff will evaluate what type of repair and/or replacement is necessary. The bridge is a truss bridge originally built by the Linn County Commission in 1939 and carries approximately 300 cars per day. While there is not an easy detour over state routes, local citizens will be able to use county roads to bypass the closure.



The bridge over Locust Creek on Route B was closed June 6 until inspectors and engineers can determine what type of repair or replacement is necessary.



The plaque shows that the bridge was originally built in 1939 by the Linn County Commission.

Around the District



Participants in the Putnam County Bicycle Rodeo, hosted by the Putnam County Health Department, learned proper hand signals. As part of the event, participants also received a t-shirt and a bike helmet, partially funded through a Blueprint grant.



Several area residents attended a recent public meeting in Putnam County. Program Manager Wes Moore was able to discuss upcoming projects as well as get feedback for our On The Move mobile tour.



A young Putnam County resident preferred the crayons and coloring books to the project specifics being discussed at another table.



On June 5, a woman called with travel concerns for a trip to Louisiana. Senior Customer Service Rep Shelly Aebersold helped shorten her travel time and avoid problem areas. When the woman came to pick up the map Shelly had for her, she brought in two dozen doughnuts for Shelly to share with her coworkers as a thank you.



Construction and Materials Engineer Mary Miller chatted with two local Grundy County residents about what they think MoDOT's top transportation priorities should be during the On The Move mobile tour's stop at Crowder State Park's Summer Fun Day.

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Northeast District

U.S. 63...Paid In Full!

Drivers along U.S. 63 between Macon and Kirksville have been reaping the benefit of a four-lane highway for about 10 years, and now, the cost-share project between the Highway 63 Corporation and MoDOT is officially paid off. Representatives of the corporation presented a symbolic check to the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission at its meeting in Kirksville last week.

The presentation wasn't made without fanfare. The evening before the Commission meeting, members of the Corporation held a reception at the Kirksville Arts Council, complete with live music and dinner. Members of the group profusely thanked the Commission and MoDOT employees for their support and innovation to make this the first cost-share project of its kind in the state of Missouri.

Following the Commission meeting, the Corporation held a community ice cream social at Truman State University, and more than 75 people attended.



The Highway 63 Corporation presented its final check of more than \$696,000 to the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission at its meeting in Kirksville last week. Pictured are Elsie Gaber and Harriett Beard of the Highway 63 Corporation, and the Commissioners including (left to right) new Commissioner Kelley Martin, new Commissioner Gregg Smith, Chairman Joe Carmichael, Commissioner Steve Miller, and Commissioner Ken Suelthaus.

Highway Gets Dental Work?



The first step in the process of filling voids under the pavement is to drill a hole so that the material can be injected, as demonstrated above.

The highway has a dentist? Not really, but a fairly new process to reduce concrete replacement and potholes resembles that of a dentist putting a filling in a tooth. Hot AC (asphalt concrete) seal is a process being used by the Southeast District and now being tested by other districts. Missouri Petroleum gave a demonstration to Northeast and Central District staff on U.S. 61 near Eolia this month.

According to Northeast District Maintenance and Traffic Engineer Jennifer Hinson, this treatment has been used on Missouri's concrete roads, and potentially reduces resources, both material and labor, to maintain roads.

The representative from MO Petroleum (left) is shown during the first step of the process.

"They inject a pliable material which will expand and contract with the change in temperatures," Jennifer said. This material fills voids that are underneath the pavement so water can't seep in. "When moisture gets under the pavement through cracks and joints, it creates these voids and ends up moving base material," she explained. View the process [here](#).

Around the District...



The City of Hannibal requested assistance from SEMA, who then asked MoDOT to step in and help with storm clean up after an EF2 tornado came through the town on May 20.



Will it ever end? This is a picture of one of the many roads that have been closed due to flooding along the Mississippi River.

For more info

Marisa Brown-Ellison
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573.248.2502
Marisa.Ellison@modot.mo.gov

1711 S. Highway 61
Hannibal, MO 63401

Comments & Suggestions

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MoDOT Wins Award for DDI at I-435 and Front Street

by Steve Porter



The Diverging Diamond Interchange at I-435 and Front Street was named as an example of Excellence in Transportation by the Missouri Valley Institute of Transportation Engineers.

MoDOT’s groundbreaking **diverging diamond interchange at I-435 and Front Street in Kansas City** is the 2012 winner of the **Missouri Valley Institute of Transportation Engineers Excellence in Transportation Award**.

The **I-435 at Front Street diverging diamond interchange** is the first of its kind designed in North and South America, but in an unusual sequence of circumstances, it was not the first built.

Although the **diverging diamond concept** originated on intersecting local routes in France, the Missouri Department of Transportation pioneered the application for major highway interchanges when this project was proposed and design begun in 2005.

Initially planned for construction in 2007, the I-435 and Front Street DDI project was suspended for more than three years while the **Christopher S Bond Bridge** and ancillary interchanges were constructed at the other end of Front Street several miles to the west. Once I-435 and Front Street DDI construction began in early 2011, MoDOT had already completed and proven the viability of the first DDI constructed in North and South America, **the interchange at Route 13 and I-44 in Springfield**.

The diverging diamond interchange moves traffic much more safely and quickly where there are major turning movements at high-volume highway intersections. **By switching the flow of traffic to the left side at the beginning of the interchange**, traffic is offered a free left turn, without encountering traffic or stopping again at a second traffic signal with the resultant long queues and vehicle stacking.

The I-435 and Front Street DDI not only proved to be far superior to all other interchange improvements considered at the former diamond interchange, it was built for \$8.1 million, at a small fraction of the cost of reconstructing the interchange as a larger, conventional diamond or a single-point, urban interchange. Construction was done entirely under traffic, without major lane or ramp closures, and completed much more quickly than any other alternative.

The most difficult challenge this project posed, however, was maintaining access to a safety-sensitive “box canyon” industrial neighborhood to the east of the project. The neighborhood included a chemical plant, an electrical generating plant and a major truck refueling station whose only access was through the job site. MoDOT worked with Vireo (then known as Patty Banks Associates) and Wilson and Co. to establish transportation demand strategies and access plans to ensure needed access for emergency responders during all facets of construction.

Months of community outreach and planning were critical to the success of the project. When Clarkson Construction Co. began construction of the I-435 and Front Street DDI in April 2011, it faced the daunting responsibility to maintain access through the jobsite as a conventional interchange up to the moment that it was switched to a DDI, then implement the changeover under traffic in a matter of minutes. Weeks of notifications to trucking organizations, customers of a truck refueling station in the middle of the project, and to businesses in the area preceded the weekend changeover from diamond interchange to diverging diamond interchange.

The I-435 and Front Street diverging diamond interchange now functions smoothly, a sterling example of innovative thinking, public involvement and collaborative planning with stakeholders in mind.

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MoDOT Team Takes Safety Message to Teens

by Steve Porter



Randy Johnson covers the dangers of inattention and distracted driving behind the wheel.

Teens taking driver’s education courses in May and June are hearing strong safety messages from MoDOT before they hone their skills behind the wheel.

Several engineers, led by veterans Randy Johnson, Lisa Stupps, Jodi Puhr, and Jim Templer are presenting information about roundabouts and traffic safety to 20 classes again this summer. This year marks the 9th year for the roundabouts program.

The roundabouts presentation helps young drivers understand the rules at the circular intersections and why they will encounter more of them throughout their lifetime.

Traffic safety presentations include repeated emphasis on buckling up, everyone, every time, plus the dangers of distracted driving – particularly cell phones and texting. While the team relies on

several videos to quickly cover topics, the presentations are woven with personal experiences and observations, the kind of perspective that connects with young teens.

Members of the MoDOT team also include Jacob Wilson, Taylor Hill, Paul Boenisch, Melissa Neff, Ryan Hale and Steve Porter.

This year the team has already presented to Warrensburg, O’Hara, Oak Grove, Pleasant Hill and Liberty students. Still to come are presentations to Belton, Warrensburg summer school health class, William Chrisman and Lee’s Summit students.

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From Snow to Floods

It seems as if we went straight from pushing snow to closing flooded roads this year.

Central District maintenance crews were busy for several weeks as water from area creeks and rivers flowed over onto a number of highways throughout the district. At the height of the flooding, about a dozen roads in the Central District were closed to traffic. Statewide there were about 195 roads closed at the peak of the flooding.

“I want to commend our maintenance crews for a job well done handling the recent floods,” said Central District Engineer David Silvester. “This has been a tough year for us. We had several snow storms late in the season, and just when those let up, the spring rains came and caused flooding problems for us. But, as always, our crews rose to the occasion.”



Route 94 in Callaway County was one of about a dozen roads under water at the height of the recent flooding.

From scouting for flooded roads to cleaning up debris once the water receded, maintenance workers throughout the district had their hands full dealing with the excess water. In addition, several of the storms brought high winds that cause downed power lines and tree limbs that had to be taken care of. And, while the abundant water made the grass grow tall, the wet ground made it difficult for us to get in and mow in some areas.

As a result, the customer service centers were “flooded” (no pun intended) with calls. On several occasions Emergency Operations Center volunteers were called in to help handle customer calls and gather flooding information from the road crews to keep the Traveler Information Map current.

On a brighter note, while the flooded roads caused some detours, inconvenience and long hours, the central Missouri landscape is green and lush!

MoDOT Receives Funds for Innovative Safety Projects

Several Central Missouri roadways will soon be getting special treatment thanks to a federal grant MoDOT has received. The funds will enable us to try an innovative pavement application that will help keep motorists safer on Missouri highways.

The \$150,000 grant will allow the department to test a pavement application on curves and intersections that provides more traction for vehicles. MoDOT will use the innovative safety tool – called High Friction Surface Treatment - on a curve on Route 54 at the Madison

Street exit, as well as on a hilly curve on Route 179 just past the Route C intersection. Depending on the results and how far the money stretches, we may also treat two sites on Interstate 44 near Rolla.

“The High Friction Surface Treatment gives vehicles a grip on the road when travel conditions aren’t ideal, such as when it rains or snows,” said Dave Ahlvers, state construction and materials engineer. “This funding will allow us to complement the safety tools we already use, such as guard cable and rumble stripes.”



Missouri is one of 13 states to receive a *Highways for LIFE* grant from the Federal Highway Administration for innovative highway and bridge projects that will improve safety, create jobs and enhance the quality of the nation’s transportation infrastructure. The grants encourage the use of innovative technologies and practices on America’s roads and bridges, such as accelerated bridge construction, cutting-edge building materials and advanced methods for construction project management.

Meet Our Interns



The Central District is reaping the benefits of 14 college students who are interning for the district this summer. Below is the list of those students, their work location and the school they attend. Also pictured in the photo are three new employees: Erica Ross, Traffic Studies Specialist, Camdenton Project Office; Ryan Lidholm, highway designer; and Matt Barnes, construction inspector, Columbia Project Office.

Employee	Work Location	School
Andrew Bertels	Design	Linn State Technical College
Sawyer Breslow	Design	University of Mo.-Columbia
Jerald Brown	Traffic (St James)	Mo. Univ. of Science & Technology, Rolla
Jarrett Ellis	Camdenton Project Office	Mo. Univ. of Science & Technology, Rolla
Tabitha Fiske	St James Project Office	Mo. Univ. of Science & Technology, Rolla
Joseph Jacobi	St James Project Office	Mo. Univ. of Science & Technology, Rolla
Addison Jobe	Jeff City Project Office	Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Cyrus Meller	Design	University of Mo.-Columbia
Nicholas McCullough	Columbia Project Office	University of Mo.-Columbia
Michael Oetterer	Survey	Linn State Technical College
Justin Oswald	Safety	University of Central Mo. -Warrensburg
Jacob Phelps	Columbia Project Office	Mo. Univ. of Science & Technology, Rolla
Tyler Ruettgers	Information Systems	Linn State Technical College
John Strobel	Equipment Technician	Linn State Technical College

District Happenings



The Central District work zone teams are once again traveling the Central District inspecting work zones. This is the second year for the new practice the district has put into place to improve work zone safety. At left, Project Manager Mike Dusenber and Senior Materials Inspector Chris Riney check out the Route 50 east four-lane project in Osage County.



The eastbound ramps leading from Interstate 70 to the Route Z interchange near Columbia opened to traffic on June 7, almost two months ahead of the scheduled completion date of Aug. 5. In addition to the ramps opening, the Route Z project reached another milestone when construction crews poured the bridge deck for the new overpass (pictured at left). The Central District worked with the contractor on the project, Don Schnieders Excavating Company, to accelerate the opening of the ramps. The early opening enabled I-70 traffic to again have direct access to the south I-70 outer road.



Missouri State Highway Patrol Sergeant Danny Crain, pictured at left, visited with students attending the Ft. Leonard Wood Safety Day about the importance of wearing a safety belt. Other volunteers with the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety's Central Region who helped share the safety message on May 23 were Bonnie Prigge and Shannon Beck, Meramec Regional Planning Commission; Dawn Haslag and Darla Stumpe, Central Office Highway Safety Division; Russ Burris, ThinkFirst; and Dianna Johnson, Central District. Paul Watson and Scott Lyons from the St. Robert maintenance facility used the golf cart and fatal vision goggles to demonstrate to participants what it's like to drive impaired.

Congratulations to J.D. Collison's son, Tyler, a player on the Hartville Eagles baseball team, which captured the Class 2 state baseball championship on May 30. J.D. is the Lebanon maintenance supervisor.<http://tinyurl.com/q8j96fd>



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Greg Horn Named Interim District Engineer for St. Louis District

by Kara Price



Greg Horn will lead the St. Louis district as its interim district engineer. Horn has been selected to this position temporarily until senior management conducts the formal hiring process. Randy Hitt, Mississippi River Bridge project manager, will assume the role as project director for this major bridge construction.

For the past five years, Horn served as MoDOT's Project Director for the New Mississippi River Bridge connecting Missouri and Illinois in St. Louis City. The \$670 million project is the largest bi-state project in the region's history. In his position, he is responsible for coordinating property acquisition, design, and construction to ensure the project is built on time and within budget.

Greg, a native of Webster Groves, Mo., is a registered professional engineer. He received his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Missouri, Columbia. Upon graduation, he started his career at MoDOT in 1984 in MoDOT's St. Louis construction department. Three years later, he was asked to serve as a Resident Engineer to build the Highway 40 Missouri River Bridge between St. Louis and St. Charles counties.

In 1996, Greg piloted MoDOT's area engineer position. He was responsible for determining and prioritizing all MoDOT activities in the City of St. Louis, and was involved with the location study for the New Mississippi River Bridge. His work served as the model for a position that is now used successfully by MoDOT statewide. Greg became the St. Louis assistant district engineer for Project Delivery in 1999. In that position, he was responsible for more than 300 employees encompassing design, property acquisition, and construction. Since that time, he and his team have delivered more than 800 construction projects totaling over \$2 billion, on time and within budget.

Anheuser-Busch Helps MoDOT Clean Up Missouri with Sponsor-A-Highway

by Kara Price

The Missouri Department of Transportation's Sponsor-A-Highway program offers Missourians a way to help with litter clean-up and make a difference in our state. Anheuser-Busch has joined this effort by sponsoring a section of Interstate 55 near Arsenal to remove litter and keep this area of south St. Louis City clean.

MoDOT offers an environmentally friendly program to help maintain a clean and litter free community within the St. Louis metropolitan area. Sponsor-A-Highway, which complements MoDOT's Adopt-A-Highway program, offers one more way for citizens to clean up Missouri. Groups or organizations can sponsor a highway in the St. Louis and Kansas City areas and pay a private company, Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Service of America, Inc., to do litter cleanup and other services on their behalf.

Leaders from Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Service of America, Inc., the Missouri Department of Transportation and Anheuser-Busch discussed the significance of the Sponsor-A-Highway program at a recent

press conference held in south St. Louis. They also unveiled the new Sponsor-A-Highway signs, located on both directions of I-55 near Arsenal. The signs are similar to ones used in the Adopt-A-Highway program, and feature the Anheuser-Busch name and logo to indicate where the company helps keep the roadside litter-free.

"Anheuser-Busch is excited to sponsor this portion of Interstate 55 located right in our own backyard," said Margarita Flores, Vice President, Community Affairs, Anheuser-Busch. "Our company has a long history of investing in the community and protecting the environment, and we are proud to support organizations, like Adopt-a-Highway, that make a positive and sustainable difference in our neighborhoods."

"MoDOT spends approximately \$6 million annually to clean up litter, and that doesn't include the efforts of our adopters," Beth Wright, MoDOT statewide maintenance engineer, said. "The Sponsor-A-Highway program costs taxpayers nothing, helps offset additional litter pick-up costs and means cleaner roadsides for us all."



A new Sponsor-A-Highway sign is located on both directions of I-55 near Arsenal. The signs are similar to ones used in the Adopt-A-Highway program, and feature the Anheuser-Busch name and logo to indicate where the company helps keep the roadside litter-free.



Leaders from Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Services of America, Inc., Anheuser-Busch and the Missouri Department of Transportation discussed the significance of the Sponsor-A-Highway program in early June.

"Participating in the program allows local businesses the opportunity to be recognized as a company that is concerned with the environment, has civic pride and a sense of community responsibility," said Melinda Centner, CEO of Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Service of America, Inc.

Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Service of America, Inc. is a national company that develops partnerships with state transportation departments to assist in the implementation and ongoing facilitation of Sponsor/Adopt-A-Highway programs. The company has been in business for more than 20 years and provides litter removal services in 12 other states. Their goal is to provide MoDOT with a resource for cleaning highways. For more information on the Sponsor-A-Highway program, visit www.modot.org/services/community/sponsorahighway.htm.

MoDOT's North Area Engineer Briefs Missouri Governor on Major Flooding

photo by Andrew Gates



Larry Welty, MoDOT's area engineer for North St. Louis County, second seated from the right, briefs Missouri Governor Jay Nixon on roadway flooding in West Alton. The governor spoke with the agencies and the St. Louis media responding to the flooding in the region.

MoDOT Battles St. Charles County Flooding

photos by Jack Wang



The flooded southbound lanes of Route 67 with this historical marker as the only remaining sign that a highway does exist under the water.



Cars driving on a low flooded section of southbound Route 67 south of Route 94 in St.

Charles County as MoDOT crews used pumps to try to keep from losing the southbound lanes.



The rising Missouri River flooded the parking lot up to the door of the trailers for the I-70 Blanchette Bridge Reconstruction Project during the first week of June. Crews were able to get the equipment to higher ground as the river crested at 33.8 feet, which is nearly nine feet above flood stage.

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Comments & Suggestions

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SW District at Work



TEMPORARY EMERGENCY REPAIR: Filling a hole around a culvert undermined by heavy rains are Assistant Maintenance Supervisor Kevin Pitts, left, and Intermediate Maintenance Worker Monte Hilde, both from Clinton. The location is Henry County Route C east of Clinton. (Photo by Bob Edwards)



CDL TRAINING TIP: Mount Vernon Senior Maintenance Worker Danny Bowling, right, instructs a student driver going through MoDOT Southwest's community training program to help potential employees in transportation and construction earn a Class B Commercial Driver's License. (Photo by Bob Edwards)

Chip-Seal Program Under Way

by Angela Eden

Drivers are negotiating one-lane traffic this week in Barry County -- on Route Z and on Business Route 60 east of Monett -- as the summer's first chip-seal projects have begun.

The same contractor, Hutchens Construction of Cassville, also will do chip-seals on various roads in Lawrence, Greene, Stone, Christian, Webster, Taney, Dallas, Newton and McDonald counties. The process will be used on 24 different routes totaling 187 miles, with completion in late August. A contractor chip-sealed 200 miles of district roads in 2012.

District maintenance crews will do another 42 miles of chip-seals starting in July. In 2012, maintenance crews chip-sealed 143 miles.

Assistant District Engineer Andy Mueller, who is over Operations, said using a contractor for the majority of the chip-seals this year will help free up maintenance forces to concentrate on jobs that in the past were placed on hold.

"It gives them a chance to work on drainage maintenance that always seems to be put on the back-burner," he said. Crews also will be able to do more pothole repairs, brush cutting and keeping signs "straight and looking good," he said.

Senior Pavement Specialist Brad Brown said a chip-seal is a sound preventive maintenance tool that seals the pavement with oil and rock.

"It gives us a wearing surface," Brown said, and that helps prolong the life of the road.

CDL Training Expands Worker Pool For MoDOT and Other Employers

by Bob Edwards

A new-to-the-Southwest District program designed to help potential employees earn a Commercial Driver's License drew 24 trainees who will be prepared to take the CDL exam next week.

The CDL training initiative is based on one developed for MoDOT's Kansas City and St. Louis districts. It seeks to reach out to diverse groups to consider employment with MoDOT and other employers in construction and transportation.

The program goal is to identify and train people free of charge to pass the test and obtain a Class B CDL.

The training is not a job guarantee with MoDOT or anyone else, but it gives trainees the opportunity to achieve a key licensing requirement for jobs that involve driving a dump truck.

"If they listen to what we tell them, they'll be alright," said instructor Jackie Claxton, a district retiree from Springfield Design/Utilities. Other trainers are Springfield Senior Maintenance Worker Doyle Clement, Mount Vernon Senior Maintenance Worker Danny Bowling and retirees Mark Willis from Neosho Maintenance and Allen Bley from Nevada Maintenance.

"All of them take a lot of pride in making sure their students are grasping the concepts," Assistant to the District Engineer Scott Bachman said.

The trainees signed up through community organizations and public agencies partnering with MoDOT. The groups are Springfield NAACP, Missouri Career Center/Springfield, Job Point, Job Corps, Southwest Missouri Indian Center, Minorities in Business, Washington Avenue Baptist Church, Crimson House, Bartley-Decatur Neighborhood Center and Missouri Department of Vocational Rehabilitation.

To be admitted to the CDL class, trainees had to be at least 18 years old and have a high school diploma or GED, possess a valid regular driver's license and pass a written exam to get a CDL permit. While the training is free, each trainee must pay for his or her permit and license.

The trainees truly have been engaged in the process, ongoing the last two weeks at the former Sunshine Maintenance Facility in Springfield, Bachman said. "I've seen them coach one another. I think that's been pretty cool to see."

To set up the program in Springfield, the Southwest District Human Resources staff drew on the experiences of similar CDL training initiatives conducted in Kansas City and St. Louis. Help came from Central Office Equal Opportunity Senior Human Resources Specialist Ida Mitchell, Kansas City Senior Human Resources Specialist Jim Fight, St. Louis Senior Customer Relations Specialist/Community Liaison Shirlyn Myles and Central Office Senior Employee Development Specialist Ray Wood.

The training started with classroom instruction and moved to pre-trip inspection. Trainees then had to become familiar with dump truck controls. They began driving trucks on the lot. Practice sessions included backing maneuvers and parallel parking. By the end of the first week, instructors were letting trainees drive in traffic on the roads.

Planning began in January when community partners were approached to gauge their interest. The program was set up and word of its availability went out. People who signed up for the training -- and they come from various backgrounds -- had to go through a workshop in March and commit to the two-week training in June.

"We're going to continue to reach out to these individuals and track their progress," Bachman said. "Our success will be determined by their success in acquiring their CDL and finding employment."

Offering the CDL training has helped the district establish new relationships with groups throughout the area, he said.

And he said, "It's an opportunity for MoDOT to give back to the community we serve."

The district will evaluate the CDL training program to determine how it can be improved and when and where it might be offered in the future, Bachman said.



Doyle Clement, left



Allen Bley, right



Mark Willis, left



Jackie Claxton, left

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Public Auction Generates Funds for Missouri's Roadways

With the current lack of transportation funding, the Southeast District is working to make the best use of taxpayers' dollars—including marketing existing property to help fund roadway improvements.

As part of this effort, the Southeast District held a public auction on June 8 in Willow Springs with the help of Affiliated Auctioneers of Kansas City.

"Over 100 people attended the live, on-site auction, and there was also an option to bid online," said Assistant District Engineer Chris Rutledge.

During the auction, four dump trucks, five tractors, two cars, two one-ton trucks and one utility vehicle were purchased.

"We also sold several unusual items, including old radar guns, soil testing equipment, an old gas pump, a paint shaker and outdated signal head assemblies," said Rutledge.

He added the auction was a success and generated over \$100,000, which will be put back into the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program's budget for use on Missouri's roadways.

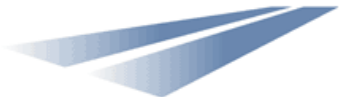
If you are interested in viewing items currently for sale by MoDOT, please visit www.modot.org/business/contractor_resources/MoDOTSurplusAuctions.htm. MoDOT is also generating funds for roadway improvements by marketing parcels no longer needed to build, improve or maintain Missouri's highway system. To view properties currently for sale, please visit www.modot.org/southeast/RealtytoRoads.htm.



The public auction held on June 8 generated over \$100,000, which will be added to the STIP budget for use on Missouri's roadways.

SE Coalition for Roadway Safety Offers Free Driving Course for Seniors

*Southeast Coalition
for Roadway Safety*



The Southeast Coalition for Roadway Safety and Howell County Health Department are sponsoring an AARP Older Driver Safety class on Fri., June 28 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., with a break for lunch. It will be located at the Howell County Health Department, 180 S. Kentucky St., West Plains, Mo.

The class will consist of video presentations, lecture and discussion. There are no tests and will be a number of breaks. The Southeast Coalition is covering the regular class fees of \$12 for AARP

members and \$14 for nonmembers. Advanced registration is requested. To register, please contact Regional Coalition Contact Sandra Taurone at (573) 472-5388 or via email at sandra.taurone@modot.mo.gov.

The AARP Driver Safety Program is the nation's first and largest refresher course for drivers ages 50 and older. Participants will update their knowledge of today's roads, traffic laws, vehicles, the effects of medications on driving and how to adjust their driving to suit common age-related changes in vision, hearing and reaction time.

Safe driving is a challenge for all drivers. People attending the class will learn driving strategies that take into account the effects of aging. They will identify the most common crash situations and how to reduce the chances of having a crash. Seniors who take part in the training not only learn useful skills, but may be eligible for discounts on their auto insurance.

For more information or to register, contact Taurone at (573) 472-5388 or email at sandra.taurone@modot.mo.gov.

SE District Helps Red Cross Save Lives

An excerpt from the "Thank You" letter received by Administrative Technician Lisa Cook is included below.

Thank you for coordinating the May 29 blood drive at the Missouri Department of Transportation.

The Red Cross could not collect the blood products patients need without generous volunteer blood donors. Your blood drive produced 26 pints of blood. Because each donation has the potential to help save up to three lives, you can feel good knowing your drive helped 78 patients.

Thank you again for supporting the Red Cross blood program. I look forward to working with you in the future.

*Sincerely,
Tara Lincoln
American Red Cross Donor Recruitment Representative*

Birch Tree Resident Thanks MoDOT Crews

The following email was received from Ms. Harrington on May 30:

I sent an email earlier this afternoon asking why it seemed no one mowed our ditch and the grass was really tall. I had a nice gentleman call, and I told him my concerns. I just wanted to say thank you and the mower did come out. My husband and I are so thankful for the prompt and courteous service.

For more info

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